MEN ON MISSION

North Carolina Baptists Reaching The World For Christ

NC BAPTISTS COLLECT COATS FOR NORTH KOREAN CHILDREN

Spring 1998

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MEN ON MISSION

On The Cover
NC Baptists collect coats for North Korean children.

N.C. Baptist Men Staff
Richard Brunson, Mark Abernathy, Jimmy Huffman, Lisa Chilson, Lynn Tharrington, Lee Sadler, Fatima Roma, Mary Sue Smith, Kecia Morgan, Pam Uzzell, Sandy Smith, Frank Starnes, Paul Wilson, Ed and Ann Kanoy

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www.ncmissions.org

FROM THE DIRECTOR

I just received the following letter from Bill Cashion, consultant for Human Needs, International Mission Board.

Dear Richard,

I have just returned from North Korea and am delighted to tell you that the coats sent with love from Southern Baptist churches were received with great appreciation and gratitude by the people of that land.

The response of NC Baptists was truly phenomenal

There were 70,000 coats that arrived on the special charter flight along with 39 tons of dehydrated soup mix, 21 tons of corn, and 10 tons of emergency medical supplies. In addition, because of the generous giving of Southern Baptists to our relief fund, we purchased another 25,000 coats in Asia.

The response of North Carolina Baptists was truly phenomenal. We estimate that approximately 20,000 coats were donated from the Tar Heel state. While we are grateful for the participation of almost one hundred percent of the state conventions in this drive, no other one group gave more coats for children than did North Carolina Baptists. Please give my personal thanks to the volunteers who manned the collection and packing centers and those who assisted in the transport of the coats. We are aware that they answered a call for help on short notice during a very busy time of the year. Their efforts have brought blessings to thousands of children.

Just a few days ago, I stood in a cold school room and watched the faces of North Korean children light up as a new coat was placed around their shoulders. Every day, these precious young people attend school in buildings absent of heat in sub-freezing temperatures. Most of them were sick and suffering from malnourishment. Yet, a spark of hope was seen in their eyes as they heard of a group called Southern Baptists who took time to send them a tangible expression of God's love.

North Carolina Baptists have been used of God to make a difference in North Korea. Through response, the name of Jesus has been glorified.

Richard Brunson

I Wish I Could Be A Brother Like That...

RAYMOND EARP, NCBM PRESIDENT

The story goes that a young man was given a brand-new car by his brother. He drove the new car around town several times and then pulled up to an apartment building where a young boy approached him. The young boy looked over the shiny car and said to the man, "Where did you get this new car?" "My brother gave it to me for my birthday," replied the man. The young boy gently touched the bright red paint on the car and said quietly, "I wish I could be a brother like your brother." A brother like your brother, one who gives instead of receiving. NC Baptist men have the opportunity every day to be a "brother like your brother."

As I have traveled around the state to the regional rallies for the past several months, I have been impressed with the work that is being done and the interest you have shown in wanting to be a part of Baptist Men's work. There is still a strong interest in the work in the Ukraine, and many teams will be returning this year. If you are interested in going to help our Ukraine brethren, call the Baptist Men's office in Cary. Interest is increasing in the partnership in South Africa, and many teams are preparing to go. By the time you read this I will have been to South Africa to experience the work and the people there for the first time. I am looking forward to this trip. Mike Huffman, Atlantic Association, will be leading us. Mike has been on several partnership mission projects.

I have been impressed with the work that is being done and the interest you have shown in wanting to be a part of Baptist Men's Work

Right now my church, Calvary Church, Beaufort, and my family are involved in local missions. More than 20 years ago the folks at Calvary started a Christmas ministry at the Seafarer Center at the port in Morehead City. We began putting together 50 stockings for seamen who came in the Port the week of Christmas. Today many other churches in the Atlantic Association help collect the needed items, and Calvary RAs, GAs, Baptist men and women put the bags together. It is a fun time for everyone as the 150 bags are passed down a long table filled with shaving cream, razors, shampoo, toothbrushes and paste, candy, lotions, work gloves, Christmas tracts, and the plan of salvation. We will never know where a seed may be planted. These seamen need our prayers. Just last week we learned a crew from the Philippines had not been paid in three months. Working on a ship is not always a glamorous job.

This week we filled 50 grocery bags with items for the homeless, including personal items and clothing such as socks, gloves, and towels.

Write or call me about your projects. My address is 302 Copeland Road, Beaufort 28516, (919) 728–3070. Maybe something your Baptist Men's group does will be an inspiration for some other group. "Hands-on" is our calling to missions. "I wish I could be a brother like your brother" should be everyone's prayer.

Raymond Earp

Mission Boot Camp

Mission Boot Camp for youth is just around the corner! This summer Mission Boot Camp will take place in two areas. June 6–13, we will have Mission Boot Camp/Caswell at NC Baptist Assembly. Mission Boot Camp/West will be held on the campus of Gardner-Webb University in Boiling Springs on June 20–27. Mission Boot Camp is a mission training camp for 7–12th graders and their chaperones. During the first couple of days, participants will be trained in their area of interest (music, drama, construction, sports, etc.) and then teams will go out into surrounding areas and do hands-on missions. Local churches and associations will be helping by providing sites for the youth to work on. In the evenings, the kids will return to campus and celebrate their day.

Last year, about 300 youth and adults went out into communities and tangibly showed God's love to others. They fixed roofs, performed on the beach and in nursing homes, helped the Medical Dental Bus, did servant evangelism, and held soccer and basketball camps. For some churches, this was their first mission trip; others were seasoned veterans. For all of them, it was a challenging experience which changed lives. One church went back and gave reports to the congregation and their State Missions Offering more than doubled (Mission Boot Camp is partially funded by the State Missions Offering). Another church went home and did missions for the first time right in their own neighborhood. About 30 professions of faith and more rededications came on the next to the last night of camp. Because these kids went out and did what we are asked to do as Christians, they saw how Christ changes lives and their own lives were changed.

Cost is approximately $215.00 per camp, and you must register by April 1 (Caswell) or April 15 (Gardner-Webb). Call Lisa Chilson at (800) 395–5102, ext. 333 for registration information and more details.

NC Baptist Men's Involvement In 1997

Aviation Missions
- Enlisted over 100 pilots in NC expressing interest in helping to develop this new ministry
- 12 NCBM pilots have flown over 20 ministry flights to and from hospitals in southeast states
- Sponsored *"Young Eagles"* program and took 18 RAs on their first flights
- Sponsored orientation meeting with Angel Flight of Virginia; Hosted Angel Flight orientation at Fort Caswell
- Set up new co-pilot program for new pilots to assist on medical ministry flights.

Camps
- Over 1100 boys attended Camp Caraway this summer with 91 professions of faith and 284 rededications
- 94 participated in a week of Christian High Adventure
- 288 attended the State Lad/Crusader Camporee
- Over 1200 attended the RA Congresses.
- 300 participated in Missions Boot Camp at Caswell

Correctional Ministry
- 73 boys with a parent in prison attended Camp Angel Tree at Camp Caraway as a result of scholarships & transportation provided by Baptists; 28 of these boys made professions of faith at camp
- Community Service Projects

Disaster Relief Response
- Wilmington — continued Fran projects
- Jacksonville — continued Fran projects
- Fayetteville — continued Fran projects
- Falmouth, Kentucky — Floods
- Grand Forks, North Dakota
- Charlotte area Flooding
- Collected and sent over 10,000 coats to children in North Korea

Family Foundations
- Father/Son and Father/Daughter Retreats were held at Caswell
- 16 attended Camp Kid-Care at Caraway for children who are HIV positive or who have a family member who is

Homeland Projects
- New Hope in Christ Church, Morganton
- Friendship Church, Greensboro
- Main Street Church, China Grove
- Hispanic Mission, Pittsboro
- Westwood Church, Statesvill
- Immanuel Church, Fayetteville
- NC Baptist Assembly Renovation
- Camp Mundo Vista Renovation
- Graffiti Project — Manhatten, NY
- Hope Builders Project, Shelby
- Hope Builders Project, Raleigh

International Missions
Volunteers were in the following countries in 1997:
- Ukraine — 250
- South Africa — 411
- Prague, Czech Republic — 90
- Albania — 3
- Belgium — 8
- Romania — 25
- England — 20
- Germany — 193
- China — 10
- India — 20
- Moldova — 10
- St. Lucia — 14
- Chile — 8
- Brazil — 10

Lay Renewal Weekends
- 23 churches hosted Weekends

Lay Revivals
- 20 churches hosted weekends

Medical Missions
Medical Dental bus:
- locations — 58
- patients — 1545

Volunteers:
- medical professionals (doctors, dentists, nurses) — 515
- other volunteers — 1,116
- professions of faith — 30
- Thousands of dollars worth of medicines sent to India & Ukraine
- 20 Medical/Dental Teams were in the following countries: India; Ukraine/Moldova; China; South Africa

Sports In Mission
- A Sports Evangelism team and their coaches (15) went to South Africa to use basketball and volleyball as a means to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. A team of three (3) coaches also went to South Africa. A soccer team and their coaches (14) went to St. Lucia, West for the same reason.

Mission Statement

The goal of North Carolina Baptist Men is to help N.C. churches and associations involve their members (especially men and boys) in missions.

The objectives for accomplishing this goal are to:

- *enable and equip men and boys to be personally involved in mission activities*
- *encourage men and boys to identify and develop their personal ministries*
- *educate men and boys concerning mission opportunities*
- *teach men and boys the importance of praying for and giving to missions*
- *lead men and boys in developing in all areas and aspects of their lives to become mature, active and involved Christians.*

Caraway Chapel Named For Jackson

Former Camp Caraway director Bill Jackson has been honored for his commitment to the camp in the naming of it's outdoor chapel: the Bill Jackson Outdoor Chapel.

In thanking Jackson for his many years of service, Richard Brunson, director of NC Baptist Men, noted that since the camp opened 35 years ago, 50,000 boys have attended. More than 5,000 made a first-time commitment to Christ at the outdoor chapel.

"Many, many lives have been changed at Caraway," said Brunson. "(Jackson), more than anyone else, has been the person responsible for those changed lives."

A stone mason will design an altar for the back of the chapel that will feature a cross with inscriptions describing the number of decisions that have been made at the chapel and designating the chapel as the Bill Jackson Outdoor Chapel.

"The commitments that have been made there represent the heart and soul of Caraway like no other place," said Brunson.

1998 Dates

March

13–14	NCBM Board Meeting, Caraway Conference Center
20–21	Challengers Adventure Weekend
27–28	Operation InAsMuch Training, Fayetteville
27–28	Father/Son Retreat, Caswell

April

18	Lad/Crusader Congresses
24–25	Disaster Relief Expo, Caraway

May

1–2	Adult Campcraft Training, Caraway Campgrounds
1–3	World Changers Retreat, Raleigh
15–17	Youth Ministry Lab, Meredith College
16	State Royal Ambassador Track Meet
29–30	Challengers Work Weekend, Caraway

June

6–13	Mission Boot Camp, Caswell
7	Caraway Staff Training begins
7	Christian High Adventure begins
15	Caraway Summer Camp for boys opens
19–20	Lay Renewal Gathering
20–27	Mission Boot Camp, Gardner-Webb University
27	Ag Demonstration Farm Field Day, Campbell University

July

28–29	Operation Yahweh (Super Summer)

August

7–8	Church Brotherhood Leadership Training, Caraway Conference Center
14–15	Lay Witnessing Conference, Caraway Conference Center

September

11–12	Equipping Today's Church Conference, Ridgecrest
18–19	NCBM Board Meeting, Cary
18–19	Lad/Crusader Camporee, Caraway Campgrounds

October

2–3	Equipping Today's Church Conference, Caswell
9–10	Royal Ambassador Leadership Training
16–18	Adult Campcraft Training, Caraway Campgrounds
31	WFU Football Day (WFU vs. VA)

November

1–7	Royal Ambassador Week in the Churches
6–7	NC Baptist Health Care Fellowship Annual Meeting, Winston-Salem

December

4–6	Trippin' Out 2, Ridgecrest
26	Challengers Overseas Missions Trip
31–Jan. 1	New Year's Eve Exciting Alternative, Caraway Conference Center

help hurting children, healing broken families

"Hands On" Missions at Baptist Children's Homes of NC

Your Baptist Children's Homes serves 1,400 children each year at 12 facilities across the state. It serves those children with loving staff in dozens of buildings that need maintenance and repair. From the brand new John D. and Amelia W. Johnson Cottage going up at Mills Home, to the Whitty Cottage built in 1903 that housed children until it was taken down in March, BCH has buildings and grounds that could use the attention of **Baptist Men**.

Work groups can give a weekend or a week for grounds maintenance at a residential campus, to roofing, carpeting, remodeling, painting, putting up curtains or cleaning and repairing windows. Doing these tasks would free the small maintenance staffs for other work.

All facilities can use help at some time or another. So it is almost certain your group can find a place to serve at a time convenient to its schedule.

Call An Area Director To Discuss Service Possibilities!

Thomasville Area	Bill Scarlett	(910) 474–1200
Western Area	Reggie Gilmore	(704) 627–9254
Kinston Area	Tim Smith	(919) 522–0811
Pembroke Area	Larry Sawyer	(910) 521–3433
Lenoir Area	Donna Lail	(704) 757–0700

NC Baptist Missions Conference and Baptist Men's Convention — January 29–30, 1999 —

NC Volunteers — Snapshots From The Field

Denver Church goes west! Denver Church, Denver, NC had a Family Mission Trip this past year and went to The Kings Academy, a Baptist boarding school in east Tennessee which has ministered to thousands of students over the years. Their buildings were getting a little run down, so Denver helped brighten things up! This group was made up of all ages, and they had a blast! The church bonded and are gearing up for more mission trips in 1998.

If you have special memories from a mission trip, enclose a few pictures of your task, the name of your team members, a few quotes from them about their experience, and mail it to NC Baptist Men, PO Box 1107, Cary, NC 27512-1107, Attention: Lisa Chilson.

Denver Baptist Church men working hard.

What a mess we made!

Before the project was started.

After the project was completed.

PHOTOS

If you have special memories from a mission trip, enclose a few pictures of your task, the name of your team members, a few quotes from them about their experience, and mail to: NC Baptist Men, PO Box 1107, Cary, NC 27512–1107, Attention: Lisa Chilson

Coats For North Korea

"I am amazed at how many coats were given on very short notice," said Richard Brunson in a message sent to several directors of missions in associations across North Carolina.

Brunson, director of NC Baptist Men which coordinated the project, was referring to about 6,500 coats which were donated by Tar Heel Baptists for children in North Korea during the first collection drive.

The NC effort was part of a national project coordinated by the International Mission Board (IMB).

North Koreans are suffering in many ways, especially from inadequate food and clothing. "Coats for Christmas" was an effort to provide for the physical needs of the North Korean children while bearing a Christian witness and testimony.

An appeal to meet this urgent need appeared on the cover of the December 6 issue of the Biblical Recorder. Various collection sites were established across North Carolina, many of them at associational offices. Coats collected at these sites were trucked to the Baptist Building in Cary where they were loaded into two 25-foot trucks and taken to Richmond, VA, on the morning of December 13.

In Richmond, volunteers sorted the coats and repackaged them for air shipping to North Korea to be given to the children.

Placed in the pocket of each coat was a small piece of paper with the words "A gift of love from Baptist churches in the United States." The message was written in Korean and English.

NC Baptist leaders had predicted 3,000 coats would be donated in the state, but by 4:00 p.m. on December 12, there were more than 4,200 coats already at the Baptist Building with hundreds more on the way.

By the next day, there were about 6,500 coats. One truck had been rented for the trip to Richmond, but when the large number of coats started coming in, Brunson rented a second truck.

"There are many heartwarming stories surrounding the donation of these coats," said Brunson. "For example, the Korean churches in the Wilmington and Yates Associations responded immediately."

A Sunday School class in the Crabtree Valley Church, Raleigh, talked about the need on Sunday morning, December 7, and agreed that the price of admission to the class Christmas party on December 9 would be a coat for the Korean children.

Executive Director-Treasurer Roy J. Smith, a member of the congregation, brought 15 coats to the Baptist Building on December 10. Other coats from the church were brought later.

The request was given for used coats, clean and in good condition, but many new coats were donated, some with price tags still attached.

One observer quipped, "People were willing to pay more for a coat for the North Korean children than they paid years ago for their own children's coats."

The numbers were impressive from locations all across the state. For example, Stallings Memorial Church in Rowan Association was used as a collection site for the surrounding areas. The first load of coats numbered 900, and a second load totaled 700.

From Hendersonville (Carolina Association) 300 coats were sent, and from Transylvania Association (Brevard area) another 300 coats were sent to Cary and then on to Richmond.

In Sylva, the Ashley Corporation, which makes coats and ball caps, delivered 90 new coats for the project. The company makes coats for NASCAR and did several items for the Olympics in Atlanta.

John Reid, director of missions for Tuckaseigee Association, approached the plant manager about donating coats or selling them at a reduced price. The manager offered to provide the materials free, and eight ladies donated their time on Saturday to produce 60 coats. Another 30 new coats were located, bringing the number to 90.

A total of 328 coats came out of the Tuckaseigee Association area.

Bob Shrewsbury of Chapel Hill and George Shore, retired administrative associate to the executive director for NC Baptists, volunteered to drive the rented trucks to Richmond on December 13.

Brunson praised the cooperative efforts of many people.

"Thank you for all that you did to make this project happen," he wrote to the directors of missions. "Please pray for the people in North Korea, especially the children who will be receiving these coats."

Several observers noted that the success of this project is another example of the mission-mindedness of NC Baptists.

"When there is a mission opportunity anywhere in the world, North Carolina Baptists are willing to take on the challenge," said one person.

Cash donations were also received to purchase new coats.

On the national level, more than 100,000 coats were expected to be sent to North Korea.

This article and picture are the courtesy of the Biblical Recorder.

Agricultural Missions Opportunities

One of the goals of Agricultural Missions is enable and equip men and boys to be personally involved in missions related to rural poverty and world hunger (Matt. 25:34–40). There are many opportunities for Agricultural Missions work here in North Carolina and in Third World countries. Taking care of the physical needs of people opens the door to share Jesus Christ. Since a majority of the people living in poverty worldwide are in rural areas and depend upon agriculture for a living, Agricultural Missions is a natural beginning to minister to these people.

Demonstration Farm

NC Baptist Men operate the Agriculture Demonstration Farm located at Campbell University. One of the objectives of this farm is to demonstrate farming techniques which can be applied in Third World countries. Gene Hickman is the farm manager and does an outstanding job. Crops are grown which have Third World country application. Sheep, goats, rabbits, ducks, and chickens are kept on the farm. Missionaries who are on furlough come to the farm to learn about crops and agriculture techniques which can be used on the mission field. The farm serves as a hands-on experience for seminary classes. Visitors are always welcome.

Fred Troutman of Yadkinville, a long-time member of the Demonstration Farm Steering Committee, demonstrates one of the many techniques he has developed which can be applied in Third World countries.

The annual Demonstration Farm Field Day set for Saturday, June 27, is an excellent opportunity for RA groups, Challengers, GAs, Acteens, as well as Baptist men and women to see the many projects which are in progress at the Demonstration Farm. Last year more than 100 people attended this event. For more information, please check the appropriate item on the back page.

The following are opportunities for Baptist Men, Challengers, or RA groups to participate in work projects at the farm. Contact Gene Hickman at (910) 893–3077 to arrange a date.

Any Time — Construct a new chicken house (Lumber will be on the site)

Immediate — Install gutters on the barn

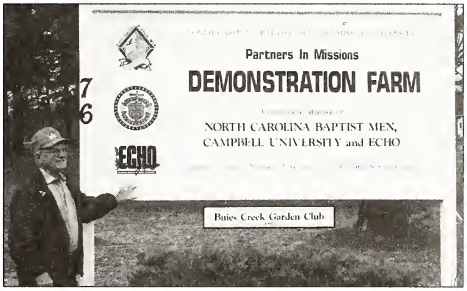
Any Time — Construct livestock fence

April – May — Assist with planting crops

April – August — Mow grass and cutting weeds

September – October — Help with harvesting crops

Jim Canterberry
Agricultural Missions Coordinator
1325 Mellon Court
Cary, NC 27511
(919) 467-3126



Gene Hickman, Demonstration Farm Manager, inspects the new entrance sign at the farm on the property of Campbell University

Some of the goats and sheep which are kept at the Demonstration Farm.

CORRECTIONAL MISSIONS

Community Service Projects — Camp Angel Tree

1997 was a wonderful year of ministry for NCBM Correctional Ministry. One of the highlights of the year was enjoying the dynamic ministry of Chuck Colson, founder of Prison Fellowship International, who challenged us at the Baptist Men's Convention last February. The spring "Breaking the Chains of Crime" conference, held at Caraway Conference Center, gave our ministry volunteers an opportunity for fellowship and further training. This was our fourth year to sponsor Camp Angel Tree at Camp Caraway. Camp Angel Tree continues to be a great success as the gospel is making an impact on the lives of children of prison inmates. Last summer the WMU sponsored their first Camp Angel Tree for girls at Mundo Vista. Many of our churches also participated in the Angel Tree Christmas gift-giving project which shared the love of Christ with thousands of families last year. Finally, we are grateful for the many correctional ministry volunteers who teach and demonstrate the hope of Christ in jails and prisons across our state throughout the year.

In 1998 there will be many opportunities available for your mission group or church to become involved in correctional ministry. Four Community Service Projects are now being planned for 1998. These projects partner Baptist Men and prison inmates working together to renovate homes of needy families. If you are interested, please call me for further information.

Camp Angel Tree is scheduled for July 20–24 at Camp Caraway. This ministry is helping introduce many young men to Christ and break the cycle of crime. If you are interested in sponsoring a camper for $100.00 or providing transportation, please contact NC Baptist Men at (800) 395-5102, ext. 341 or Prison Fellowship at (800) 926–2196, or check the appropriate item on the back page.

Johnny Henderson
State Correctional Ministry Coordinator
P.O. Box 499
Seagrove, NC 27341
(910) 873–7995

DISASTER RELIEF

Annual NC Baptist Men Disaster Relief Training

The Annual North Carolina Baptist Men Disaster Relief Training will be held April 24–25, 1998 at Camp Caraway. The areas of training include feeding, recovery, child care, medical, and counseling. Please note that each participant can only train in one area. Participants will be pre-registered on a first-come, first-serve basis. Housing is a combination of motel and dormitory styles. Camping is available upon request. The cost is as follows: Conference Center Housing, $48.00 per person; Cabins — dormitory style housing, $44.00 per person; Commuters, $25.00 per person. The cost includes one hat or shirt, training manual, housing, and food. Spaces fill quickly, so register soon! For more registration and additional information, please check the appropriate item on the back page or call (800) 395–5102, ext. 341.

Lyman Fisher
State Disaster Relief Coordinator
1679 Blanton Branch Road
Sylva, NC 28779
(704) 444–5106 pager

FAMILY FOUNDATIONS

On Target For Christ

The North Carolina Baptist Assembly (Caswell) will sponsor its Father-Son Retreat on March 27–28 at the Assembly. The retreat is open to fathers with sons in grades 1–3. Fathers and sons will learn how to get and keep their life on target for Christ. This retreat will feature Byron Tabor, an award-winning archer.

The Assembly encourages fathers to bring only one son so that they have each other's undivided attention. Cost is $30.00 per person. A deposit of $15.00 per person must be received by March 15. For more information, please contact NC Baptist Assembly at (910) 278–9501.

LAY RENEWAL

Lay Renewal Testimony

BY REX EVERHART

My first Lay Renewal Weekend (LRW) was in 1967. At 14 I did not know, nor much care, what a LRW was. I was not particularly impressed with the visiting youth, but another unseen guest seemed to arrive with the visitors. That weekend I first met Christ and experienced His presence.

Years later my wife and I rediscovered LRW as team members and wanted to share the experience with our home church. After years of encouraging, and a commitment from a new pastor, our church began preparation. I acted as church coordinator. Not being a detail person, but desiring for the weekend to be a success, I became consumed by worry. On Thursday night at our prayer vigil I gave up on details and worry, and remembering my first LRW, made my prayer simple, "Lord do it again!" Not only was the weekend a wonderful time of renewal for the congregation, but my own twin 14 year old daughter accepted Christ!

Not only are LRW's a time of renewal but often a time of new beginnings. Beginnings, or renewals, God can use lay people in this powerful way. Encourage and use LRWs to build God's kingdom in our laity.

Doug Jones
State Lay Renewal Coordinator
P.O. Box 1132
Edenton, NC 27932

Lay Renewal Gathering June 19–20, 1998
More information in next issue.

MEDICAL MISSIONS

NC Baptist Health Care Fellowship Mission Trips

Our world is changing at breakneck speed and becoming smaller every day with computers, email, Internet, and better travel. However, we still live in a world where many people have significant physical and spiritual needs which can be met through short-term medical mission trips. These trips can change your life and breathe a new freshness into your walk of faith with our Lord Jesus. I would encourage you today to consider how you can become involved in our Lord's work of meeting physical and spiritual needs through short-term health care mission opportunities. The following is a list of 1998 medical dental trips:

Ukraine

Cost: $1550.00
April 18 – May 2
May 30 – June 14
June 20 – July 5
July 4 – July 19
July 18 – August 2
July 25 - August 9
August 15 – 30
August 22 – September 6
September 5 – 20
September 19 – October 3
September 26 – October 11

China

Cost: $2,500.00
June 6 – 21
August 13 – 28
September 12 – 26

India

Cost: $2,900.00
June 6 – 28
June 27 – July 18
July 11 – August 1
July 25 – August 15

For additional information and an application, please check the appropriate item on the back page.

Pam Uzzell is the new Partnership secretary. She handles Ukraine and South Africa. You can reach her my calling (800) 395–5102, ext. 322.

BAPTIST MEN SHIRTS AND HATS AVAILABLE

	NCBM Golf Shirt-Green $27.00 each			NCBM Golf Shirt–Striped $25.00 each			NCBM White T-shirts $6.00 each		
Size:	Medium	Large	X-large	Medium	Large	X-large	Medium	Large	X-large
Quantity:									

NCBM Hats $7.00 each					
Color:	Black	Teal	Navy	Forest Green	Purple
Quantity:					

	Challenger Hats $12.00 each	Royal Ambassador Hats Khaki/Green–$12.00 each	Royal Ambassador Hats Khaki/Blue–$12.00 each
Quantity:			

Ship to:

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Church _____ Day Phone: ( ) _____

Order Total	$	
Shipping/Handling	$	*2.00*
Grand Total	$	

Make checks payable and return to: NC Baptist Men, PO Box 1107, Cary, NC 27512

MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING

Baptist Hospital of North Carolina, Inc.

Week of Prayer • May 3-10, 1998

Touching Lives With Hope

When medical bills compound the devastating effects of illness, some families find emergency relief through benevolent funds provided through the Mother's Day Offering for Baptist Hospital. All gifts to the fund go to help families pay their hospital bills.

MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING BRINGS TEARS OF JOY • 1998 GOAL $500,000

Woman Dedicated to Helping Others Receives Assistance

August, 1996, was a month filled with changes for Brooke A. Rodgers. The agency she worked for had closed its doors, and she had decided to move to Winston-Salem to stay with a friend and look for a new position. Her youngest daughter, Maggie, was packing for her first semester at college.

A few days before the movers were scheduled to come, Rodgers visited a women's health center at the University of Virginia for an annual check-up. Doctors there found a lump in Rodgers's breast. The lump was cancerous, and the cancer had spread to her lymph glands. It was information that changed her life. Suddenly the productive, single mother of two college students became an unemployed, uninsured cancer patient.

"When I got the letter from Baptist Hospital saying they had paid my bill, I sat down and cried."

Rodgers underwent a mastectomy at the University of Virginia, where doctors referred her to the bone marrow transplant program at Duke Hospital. She went ahead with the move to Winston-Salem, and from December 1996 through March 1997 she began making a bimonthly trek to Durham for chemotherapy.

The cancer treatments depleted her physical and financial reserves.

"Everywhere I went, I accumulated lots of bills," she said. Her friends in Elkin responded by creating a trust fund for her. She was blessed with the emotional support of her five sisters and many friends.

When chemotherapy ended, she was scheduled for intensive radiation treatments, which would last every day for seven weeks. But the two-hour drive to Durham had been such a drain on her that Rodgers appealed to Baptist Hospital for care. She was admitted to the cancer program and was able to have her radiation there in June and July 1997. Rodgers' final treatment fell on her birthday, July 29.

Maggie and Anna Cooper with their mother, Brooke Rodgers

Today, Rodgers' health is restored so that she can teach as a substitute in Winston-Salem/Forsyth County schools, and she is searching for a full-time job. Her entire work experience has been built around helping those less fortunate than she. For the past 20 years, Rodgers has worked for non profit organizations, coordinating low-income housing. In the 1970s, she devoted two years to working with Volunteers In Service To America, VISTA, the domestic Peace Corps.

Rodgers is grateful for the many kinds of support she received during the toughest days of her illness.

"When I got the letter from Baptist Hospital saying they had paid my bill, I sat down and cried," she said. "I had no idea that was a remote possibility." Today, she is making monthly payments on her other hospital bills. "I will pay them off," she said. "I want to pay back the money because I want other people to have the benefit of this treatment."

Life is slowly returning to normal. Her cancer seems to have subsided. Her oldest daughter, Anna, will graduate from West Virginia University in May 1999, and Maggie will be among the class of 2000.

"I'm anticipating absolutely no recurrence," she said. "I'm moving forward. I've always been healthy. Before this, I never had any serious health problems. It really let me know that cancer could strike anybody.

"Even though I did not have insurance, Baptist Hospital did not turn me away. I'm eternally grateful for that. I'm also grateful that they have taken the initiative to develop a fund for people who need help at a critical time in their life. Not only did I receive excellent care from very compassionate nurses, technicians and doctors, I was treated courteously by the financial aid office.

"It gives you real faith in human kind to know that people are out there for you. It's been an incredibly emotional experience to find that there are very compassionate people working at a major medical center. I'm a very lucky person." Then she gave a laugh and added, "I'm very excited about having hair again!"

He recovered in time to see his son born

Man's Tumor is a Chance to Slow Down

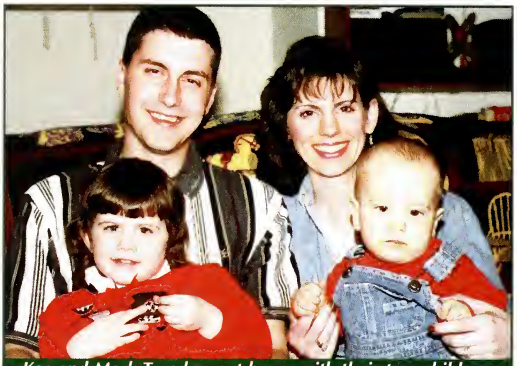
April 23, 1997 was a beautiful spring day, and Kae Treadway's 28th birthday. Kae and her husband, Mark, were settling into their new home. Kae was pregnant with the Treadway's second child, which was due in two weeks. Mark treated her to a delicious meal, and the two of them went to bed that night talking about what a wonderful life they had. At 1:00 a.m., Kae was wakened by a sudden commotion in the bed beside her. She saw Mark, flailing his arms and legs uncontrollably and then falling out of bed onto the floor.

When Kae saw that her husband couldn't speak, she called 911. Emergency medical technicians revived Mark and advised him to come to the hospital, but he refused to go. Not long afterwards, he had another unexplained seizure, and Kay insisted that he take an ambulance to a Hickory hospital. Kae and 2-year-old Abbi accompanied Mark to the Emergency Department, where Mark suffered a third seizure. "Abbi slept through the whole thing," remembered Kae.

Tests showed that something was not quite right in Mark's brain, and hospital physicians advised the Treadways to go straight to Baptist Hospital. Just eight hours after the initial seizure, at 9:00 a.m., the Treadways arrived in Winston-Salem.

"We immediately felt comfortable with the competency and straightforwardness of the doctors, especially Dr. Charles Branch," Kae said. "He brought some order to chaos. Mark was feeling better then, walking and talking. Dr. Branch ordered a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) test, and gave the Treadways the results two hours later.

"He said we were dealing with a brain tumor," Kae said, "and that it needed to come out within the next two days." Dr. Branch figured the tumor had been growing for 10 years. You'd never know it, though, because Mark was always very energetic and athletic, working hard and playing tennis, golf and basketball. I never knew where he got his energy."



Photograph by Sean Considine

Kae and Mark Treadway at home with their two children, Abbie and Scot.

The surgery went well, and Mark recovered so quickly that he was able to be at Kae's side two weeks later when she delivered a beautiful baby boy. Scot weighed in at 8 pounds, 3 ounces. Doctors decided in advance to pick a date, May 9, to induce Kae's labor so that Mark could get a good night's sleep and help her in the delivery room.

"The most wonderful thing was that Mark was with me during labor and delivery," Kae said. "He was the strong one so I could fall apart. He was everything I needed him to be."

To ensure that the tumor did not grow back, Mark began receiving radiation treatments at the hospital in June, 1997. The radiation continued five days a week for six weeks, and in August, when radiation treatments were completed, he began a one-year protocol of chemotherapy.

> ***"He said we were dealing with a brain tumor," Kae said, "and that it needed to come out within the next two days."***

Cancer treatments are often the time equivalent of a full-time job, eating away hours and days that were formerly spent earning an income. Because of the Family and Medical Leave Act, employers must hold an employee's job for 90 days in the event of a major illness. On Mark's 91st day of being absent from work, he was dismissed from his job for non-attendance — as he endured a long regimen of radiation treatments.

Months before Mark's tumor was discovered, the Treadways spent their savings to make a down payment on a new home. Their family does not qualify for Medicaid. Since Mark's illness, the family has worked hard to live within Kae's income as an English and Spanish teacher at Bunker Hill High School in Catawba County. They pared down the family Christmas list, gave up going out to eat, and learned to accept favors from good-hearted people. Mark's former co-workers gave them a diaper shower. Their fellow church members at Grace Baptist Church in Stanleyville have helped. Kae's co-workers at Bunker Hill have donated their own paid sick days to Kae so she could take care of Mark without endangering her job.

The Treadways make payments on Mark's other hospital bills as they are able, and they are grateful for assistance from the Benevolent Fund.

"It was a godsend," Kae said. "When I found out, I just cried. Then I told Mark, and he cried tears of relief. God places you in people's minds and hearts, and they just come through. We would never have chosen for this to happen, but the way we see it, God has worked it out for Mark to spend more time with his children. We spend more time together at home. This year we had the best Christmas ever, with the least we ever had.

"Dr. Glenn Lesser and Dr. Branch have been angels of mercy. They never belittled any question I had, and they have called me at home and at work to answer questions I had.

"We are eternally grateful for everyone's help in making this situation easier."

Grateful family keeps positive outlook

Courageous Boy Fights for His Health

Until February 1996, Brandon Strader spent his days like any other American boy. He rode a bicycle, enjoyed roller-blading and loved baseball. Brandon's batting average was 937, the highest of any boy on his school team in Eden, N.C. But that winter when his mother, Page, took him to the doctor for an annual check-up, his urine showed small amounts of blood. That's when the Strader's world changed quickly, and forever.

The doctor prescribed an antibiotic and ordered additional urine tests, which showed even more blood. During the next week there were more tests. Page remembers the exact moment that Brandon's doctor called with the results: March 12, 1996, at 10:15 p.m. The doctor suspected that Brandon suffered from a rare blood disease and that he was hemorrhaging from the brain.

Page and Jerry Strader rushed their son to Baptist Hospital, where doctors confirmed the diagnosis of Infantile Primary Thromboctopenia (IPT), a virus which attacks the blood. Immediately, Brandon began receiving gamma globulin treatments to increase production of blood platelets, which are produced by the bone marrow to fight infection.

Since Brandon became ill, his parents have kept an attentive eye on his blood platelet count, conveying the number to doctors at Baptist Hospital. When the count is dangerously low, Brandon goes to Baptist Hospital for three days of gamma globulin treatments. Each treatment lasts about three hours, with 20 hours between treatments. Brandon bravely endures the side effects: migraine headaches, vomiting and diarrhea.

If his platelet count is high enough, Brandon is allowed to play softball, wearing a helmet, elbow pads and knee pads. If it is low, he can't roller skate, ride his bike or play ball. Page said that if a ball were to hit Brandon in the nose, he could bleed to death. His courageous spirit has led him to learn golf and archery, non-contact sports which still allow him to be athletic.

"Brandon is a brave little boy," Page said. "It's hard to get stuck with needles all the time. And it's been hard for him emotionally, too. He worries a lot. He wants me nearby. He's afraid that if he gets hurt at school, they won't know what to do to save his life. He realizes that he could die if he does something his momma told him not to do."

Brandon Strader

Even with his illness and an operation to remove a cyst in his jawbone, Brandon has managed to keep up with his schoolwork, despite missing 28 days of school last year. Although doctors believe that IPT is not hereditary, test results on the Strader's 7-year-old son, Chase, show blood in his urine. They are watching him closely and hoping for the best.

"Brandon is a brave little boy," Page said. "It's hard to get stuck with needles all the time. And it's been hard for him emotionally, too. He worries a lot. He realizes that he could die if he does something his momma told him not to do."

The Straders have health insurance, but the added costs of hospitalization strained the family's finances to the point where they have taken out a second mortgage on their home. In addition to medical expenses not covered by insurance, they must find money to pay for dozens of trips to and from an out-of-town hospital, paying for extra gasoline and meals away from home. They buy extra books, crayons and games to keep Brandon occupied during the long hours he is hooked up to an IV pole. Jerry, who works with National Textiles in Eden, has taken a number of unpaid work days to be with Page and Brandon while Brandon is hospitalized. During tax season, Page prepares income tax returns. The rest of the year, she spends all of her time caring for the boys.

The Straders are very grateful for assistance from the Benevolent Fund, which paid the remainder of Brandon's bill after insurance claims were paid.

"I want to thank everyone for their help," Page said. "Without it, there would have been a lot more stress on us than we already had. It came at a good time, and we really needed it. I think the fund is a great thing. It's hard to make ends meet when everybody is well. You never think something like this is going to happen to you, and when it does, it takes everything you've got."

Allen makes the best of challenges that life has thrown him

King Man Beats the Odds

Allen Sauvageau (pronounced savah-joe) has made the best of the challenges that life has thrown him. A North Carolina native, his name originates in France, where Sauvageau means "wild water." The name seems to suit the man whose courageous spirit runs strong and deep.

Allen Sauvageau

Sauvageau was born with spina bifida, which has sent him to the hospital more than 100 times during the past 30 years, the span of his life. Spina bifida is a congenital defect in the walls of the spinal canal caused by a lack of union between the vertebrae. Because every nerve ending in the body originates from the spine, spinal problems cause severe malfunction in the body's vital organs.

As a newborn, Sauvageau underwent surgery to close his spinal column: That surgery resulted in hydrocephalus, an accumulation of fluid in the brain. When he was just three weeks old, doctors inserted a shunt to drain the fluid into his stomach. Despite his health problems, he learned to walk; but when he was two years old, he dislocated his hip and lost the use of his legs.

Scoliosis surgery, performed on him when he was 10, stunted his growth. He has reoccurring kidney stones, ostomy and bowel problems. When he scraped his toe several years ago, the sore became infected and doctors amputated the toe. Chronic urinary tract infections have kept him hospitalized for as much as seven months at a time, and his body constantly runs a low-grade infection, which flares up several times year. He is resistant to most antibiotics.

> ***"I asked for help, and the remainder of my bill was paid," he said. "The Benevolent Care Fund really did help a lot. I just didn't have the money."***

Still, he keeps a sense of humor.

"I've been at Baptist Hospital so many times, I feel like I own the North Tower," he said recently. "I want my name on the door of one of the rooms. I want to decorate it and have a key to it."

Sauvageau, who lives in King, N.C., recently lost his full-time job when the student loan agency he worked for closed down. He is currently job-hunting and hopes to find an employer who can make allowances for the inevitable absences due to his illness.

"Luckily, in the last 12 years I've had some really good bosses," he said. "They've understood that I sometimes have to leave to go to the hospital. They don't like it but they deal with it." Sauvageau has applied to work in the admissions department of several hospitals. He likes meeting new people and likes to help people.

Last year, he asked Baptist Hospital for assistance with his bills, and received help from the Benevolent Care Fund.

"I asked for help, and the remainder of my bill was paid," he said. "The Benevolent Care Fund really did help a lot. I just didn't have the money. There have been several times that I have had $100,000 hospital bills. The insurance company pays up to 80 percent, but that still leaves a lot of money owed."

Just after Christmas, a perforated colon landed him in the Intensive Care Unit for several days.

Although his life has been filled with challenges, Sauvageau refuses to lose hope.

"To me, life is life," he said. "This is the hand that I was dealt, and I'm going to play it to the best of my ability. I live and learn. There have been times I've wanted to say, 'This is it, I give up.' But I've got a great foundation in my friends, family, co-workers, and my friends at the hospital. It keeps me from giving up."

Sauvageau has set two personal goals for himself. He wants to find a sponsor and become a wheelchair racer. And he has a very special dream.

"Before I turn 40, I want to take a hot air balloon ride."

Photograph by Sean Considine

Allen Sauvageau keeps his hopes up

MANDATE AND NC BAPTISTS' OWNER'S MANUAL AVAILABLE

The N.C. Baptists' Owner's Manual is designed to inform, inspire and involve. The Owner's Manual gives practical ideas on how to have an effective missions program in your church. It is filled with stories about N.C. Baptist men and women who are involved in a variety of missions projects. The Owner's Manual also provides 12 easy-to-use, ready-to-go monthly Baptist Men's or co-ed missions programs. Each of these 12 programs is built around a special video segment included on the MANDATE missions video magazine.

MANDATE, produced by the Baptist State Convention, is a monthly video program. MANDATE is mailed quarterly, and includes three monthly programs on each tape. MANDATE includes stories on state missions as well as foreign and home missions.

The N.C. Baptists' Owner's Manual provides suggestions for a good Baptist Men's meeting, including information and discussion questions to precede and follow the showing of the video segment.

The cost to subscribe to MANDATE is $25 per year (this is for all four video tapes). One copy of the Owner's Manual is included with each subscription to MANDATE. Additional copies of the Owner's Manual can be purchased for $5 per manual. Subscription information is below. Order a copy for each of the men in your church.

Our goal is not to push programs; our goal is to involve men in missions. This video and Owner's Manual is a new and different method, but we believe that it will be an excellent way to inform, inspire and involve your men and your church in doing missions.

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Homeland Projects

How wonderful it is to hear that churches built by homeland volunteers are doing well and have outgrown their facilities. An example of this wonderful problem is the Hispanic church at Kernersville. God has ways of encouraging us to continue in His work by showing us how He can use what we have done to help provide a place of worship for others. Let us continue to use our time to help us minister to others in God's name. Some areas that need your help now are as follows:

New Hope In Christ, Morganton

Progress on this building has not been as rapid as originally expected. As of this writing, some work is needed to complete the electrical rough-in. This work was originally being done by contract, but the contractor has been delayed partly by Christmas and New Year holidays. The brick work is approximately 50% complete. Needs at this time are for sheetrock hanging and finishing, interior trim work, finish brickwork, exterior trim work, painting and hanging doors, and door hardware. When you can help, call Albert Stevens, on-site coordinator at (704) 437–5188 (home) or (704) 431–0089 (mobile). This is a very deserving project, and we need your help anytime you can be available.

Friendship Church, Greensboro

This building has now been completed and is being used by the new mission church. The open house and dedication are scheduled for February 22, 1998 from 3:00–5:00 p.m. If you need directions to the church, call Barry Neely, DOM, at (336) 275–7651. Thank you to all of the volunteers who worked on this project.

Camp Caraway, Asheboro

This spring, volunteers are needed to help with repairs/renovation at Camp Caraway boys camp. A variety of projects are planned including roofing, construction, painting, chainsaw work, trail maintenance, and concrete work. Some projects would be ideal for youth groups. Camp Caraway will provide housing and meals for those groups coming to work. Time and dates for work are flexible but need to be completed by May 30 in order to have camp ready. You can contact NC Baptist Men's office for a full list of available projects, or call Charles Bullard at (336) 629–2374 (work) or (336) 629–5316.

Mundo Vista, Asheboro

Work is continuing on Units 2 and 3. With the help of volunteers, these two units can be completed and ready for campers this year. Volunteers are needed for sheetrock hanging and finishing, some plumbing and electrical work, and paneling that will be necessary for the bathrooms. Most of the work is inside the building; therefore, your group can work even on rainy days. Some

work has also been started on the bathrooms in two buildings of Unit 1. Please make an extra effort to schedule time to work at Mundo Vista during the spring months. For further information and scheduling work time, call Bob Wainwright at (919) 693–5004 or Bob Navey at the camp at (336) 625–4828.

NC Baptist Assembly, Caswell

Major renovations are being done at this writing. John Bowling told me that work is being done on the old cafeteria. It was necessary to remove all of the kitchen equipment so that tile can be replaced. This work will continue for several weeks so the cafeteria will again be usable for campers this summer. Other major renovations are also being done this winter. There is always work available for volunteers at Caswell. When you can go work at the Assembly contact Marilyn for room and meal reservations and John Bowling or David Lloyd for work assignments at (910) 278–9501.

POSSIBLE UPCOMING PROJECTS:

Sandy Creek Association, Sanford

New Hispanic Church building in Siler City — The land has been purchased. Plans are now being drawn and construction should begin in late Spring or Summer 1998.

Tar River Association, Louisburg

New Hispanic Church building

Bladen Association, Elizabethtown

Church of the Good Shepherd Baptist Mission

New Korean Church in Charlotte

Renovation work at Chowan College

Bill Poindexter
State Homeland Missions Coordinator
P.O. Box 555
Pittsboro, NC 27312
(919) 542–3819

International Mission Projects

Have you noticed some of the trees and shrubs are beginning to bud and bloom? They can hardly wait for the warmer and longer days to burst forth in their glory. Well, I know some volunteers who are the same way. Plans have been made and they are eager to get on the mission field. Of course many of you also worked on projects this winter in Wernigerode, Germany; Bristol, England; and South Africa. The staff has also been busy responding to requests from such areas as China, Cuba, England, South Africa, Prague, Czech Republic, Poland, and Ukraine. I hope we will be sending volunteers to all of these areas. The need is great, and God is using special people like you to meet some of these needs.

Continue to review the projects listed in Lisa Chilson's booklet, "Baptist On Missions," and call us if God is calling you to one or more of these projects. We can use long-term (four weeks to six months) volunteers to supervise the work and coordinate volunteers on site, as well as crews for two-week assignments. We salute long-term volunteers like Jasper and Sue Evans in Wernigerode, Germany; Loyd and Eunice Rivers who served in Brussels last year; Gene Kirby serving in Ukraine; Bob and Martha Mizell who served in South Africa and Prague; and David and Mavis Bissette, John Pruitt, Wendell and Martha Sloan, Pat Coley, and Don Murray who served in Prague. All volunteers are special but these have served in demanding roles for extended periods. Thank you!

North Carolina Volunteers Break Ground In Lesotho

On December 5–16 a group of nine North Carolina volunteers were involved in a groundbreaking missions experience in Lesotho, a small country completely surrounded by South Africa. Lesotho is known as the 'mountain kingdom' and holds the distinction of having the highest lowest point of any country in the world. Because of the mountainous terrain, many parts of Lesotho are inaccessible by any other means than small aircraft, horseback, or foot travel.

The nine volunteers worked with Charles and Rebecca Middleton, the only IMB missionaries currently living in Lesotho. Rugged terrain and limited personnel have limited the work career missionaries have been able to do in Lesotho. The North Carolina volunteers went, in groups of three, into areas where no Baptist missionary has gone before. Their assignment was to do surveys and evangelism. Lesotho claims to be 95% Christian, with the great majority being Catholic. Baptists have almost no foothold whatsoever, with only three known congregations in the entire country. Basically, each team acted as Baptist ambassadors — building relationships with the Basotho people as they explained who Baptists are and inquired as to how Baptists could work with them in furthering the cause of Jesus Christ.

Each group lived in a small village with Basotho hosts, absorbing the culture and learning as much as possible about the spiritual beliefs of the people. Each group traveled by foot or horseback to neighboring villages. A Baptist Basotho guide helped with translation and other logistics. The teams were very well-received, and found that, for the most part, the Basotho people were hungry for Bible study and open to Baptists coming to work with them. Team members included Sam Scudder and Sharon Walker of Zebulon Church, Don Durham of Boiling Springs Church, Greg and Hannah Poe of Spilman Memorial in Kinston, Max Dolan of Sanford First, Ronnie Carnes and Steve Houston of Highlands First, and Mark Abernathy of Triangle Church in Raleigh.

Charles Middleton is very excited with the teams' results and hopes other North Carolina Baptists will be willing to come to Lesotho to "rough it," doing follow-up and surveying other areas. As part of the NC/Southern Africa partnership, watch for upcoming opportunities to serve in Lesotho.

North Carolina-South Africa/Swaziland/Lesotho Partnership And N.C. Associations Participating

Ashe — Contact DOM*, W. C. McKinney (910) 246–5631
Atlantic — Contact DOM, Keith Hamilton (919) 447–4593
Avery — Contact DOM, Daniel Whetstine (704) 733–6674
Bladen — Contact DOM, Mack Roberts (910) 862–3496
Brunswick — Contact DOM, Bill Smith (910) 754–7979
Brushy Mountain — Contact DOM, Lawson Horton (910) 838–4407
Buncombe — Contact DOM, Gayle Brown (704) 252–1864
Cabarrus — Contact DOM, Randy Wadford (704) 786–9171
Caldwell — Contact DOM, Dale Fisher (704) 758–4081
Carolina — Contact DOM, Alex Booth, Jr. (704) 693–4274
Catawba River — Contact DOM, William Cooper (704) 437–0137
Central — Contact DOM, Marvin Chapman (910) 883–2233
Chowan — Contact DOM, Lamar Eiland (919) 426–9621
Columbus — Contact DOM, Rick Astle (910) 642–2155
Cullom — Contact DOM, Larry Padgett (919) 257–4513
Flat River — Contact DOM, Paul Johnson (919) 693–5215
Gaston — Contact DOM, Larry McElreath (704) 864–2887
Johnston — Contact DOM, Horace Ricks (919) 965–9450
Kings Mountain — Contact DOM, Leland Kerr (704) 482–3472
Liberty — Contact DOM, Richard Capps (910) 475–0432
Little River — Contact DOM, Dan Deaton (910) 893–4282
Macon — Contact DOM, Lester Evans (704) 524–3215
Metrolina — Contact DOM, Ron Pinkerton (704) 375–1197
Mitchell — Contact DOM, Daniel Whetstine (704) 765–9412
Mount Zion — Contact DOM, Lynn Sasser (910) 226–0249
Neuse — Contact DOM, David Leary (919) 566–9478
New South River — Contact DOM, Ben Gault (910) 485–8791
North Roanoke — Contact DOM, J. D. Harrod (919) 443–3883
Pee Dee — Contact DOM, Wayne Tuttle (910) 895–5282
Raleigh — Contact DOM, Roger Nix (919) 231–3995
Randolph — Contact DOM, Judson Rotan (910) 625–4175
Sandhills — Contact DOM, J. Billy Graham (910) 947–2238
Sandy Creek — Contact DOM, Roy A. Smith (919) 776–9423
Sandy Run — Contact DOM, Otis Wheelhouse (704) 245–2613
South Fork — Contact DOM, Glain Pennell (704) 735–1642
South Roanoke — Contact DOM, Ellis Fulbright (919) 756–4332
South Yadkin — Contact DOM, Ron Harrison (704) 873–4372
Stanly — Contact DOM, Mac Keck (704) 982–1033
Surry — Contact DOM, Wayne Trexler (910) 789–5701
Tar River — Contact DOM, Bill Wallace (919) 496–7172
Theron Rankin — Contact DOM, James Crocker (704) 328–1555
Three Forks — Contact DOM, Ken Boaz (704) 264–4482
Transylvania — Contact DOM, Bill Voorhes (704) 877–3203
Truett — Contact DOM, Chester Jones (704) 837–5401
Tuckaseigee — Contact DOM, John Reid (704) 586–6011
Union — Contact DOM, Dennis Burton (704) 283–8383
West Chowan — Contact DOM, Kenneth Gibson (919) 332–3235
Wilmington — Contact DOM, Jerry Lethco (910) 799–1160
Yancey — Contact DOM, Dick Westbrook (704) 682–2388
Yates — Contact DOM, John Saunders (919) 489–3396

**DOM = Director of Missions*

Sandy Smith
State International Missions Coordinator
1116 E. Ritter's Lake Road
Greensboro, NC 27406
(910) 674–0171 home
(800) 395–5102, ext. 322 office (Tues. & Thurs.)

SPORTS IN MISSIONS

Sharing Christ Through Sports

Teams for this summer's overseas trips to South Africa (basketball and volleyball), Ukraine (soccer), and Zimbabwe (baseball and softball) have been chosen, and the period of physical and spiritual preparation has begun. Memorial Day weekend will feature a gathering of all the teams for intensive training in the philosophy of sports evangelism and its practical application.

This ministry's purpose is to provide athletes, coaches, and support personnel opportunities for participation in international missions projects like the ones mentioned above as well as in projects in this country like those previously sponsored in Norfolk, Orlando, and New York City. Moreover, we strive to be a resource for associations and churches in local sports-related missions.

One example of a local initiative which called on us to provide personnel was held on November 15, 1997. The Caldwell Association Brotherhood Council sponsored its first annual basketball clinic in preparation for the RA and Challengers basketball league season.

Associational Brotherhood Director Troy Smart and Director of Missions Dale Fisher planned a well-publicized and organized Saturday. Crusader RAs reported at 8:00 a.m. and headed home as the younger Challengers came in at 9:45 a.m. Lunch was provided for the clinic staff before the older Challengers two-hour session began at noon. A total of 95 young men and coaches participated in the skills drills and techniques instructions.

Just as importantly, they heard the testimonies of three players and a coach who had been to South Africa this past summer. The clinic gave Chris Hefner, Robert Hefner, and Travis Childers an opportunity to continue the ministry they had begun in the summer by sharing their personal faith and teaching skills with a group of their peers.

RA and Challengers leagues are used by leaders as an outreach to young men who are otherwide unchurched. Many testimonies have been given regarding young men who became Christians during or following their involvement with an RA or Challengers sports team. For those who are already believers, the league gives these young men an opportunity to enjoy a sport while developing the fellowship and sportsmanship skills which are essential to a solid Christian testimony.

Our thanks to Troy and Dale for asking us to be involved with the Caldwell Association and for their thoughtfulness in providing everything for a very successful event.

1998 Sports In Missions Opportunities

Male Soccer Team: Traveling to the UKRAINE, June 18–30. This team will be comprised of 13 players and two coaches. Each player must be 16 to 20 years of age, spiritually mature and a good soccer player. Coaches should have experience in coaching soccer, as well as spiritual leadership abilities. The team will be playing games as well as conducting clinics as a means of sharing the gospel.

Two Male Basketball Teams: Traveling to SOUTH AFRICA, June 25–July 9. These teams will be comprised of eight players and two coaches. All players must be in the 10th–12th grade, spiritually mature and good ball players. The teams will be participating in a basketball tournament and conducting clinics as a means of sharing the gospel. Coaches should have basketball coaching experience and spiritual leadership abilities.

Female Sports Team: Traveling to SOUTH AFRICA, July 25–Aug. 8. This team would be comprised of eight young ladies and 3 coaches. Each player must be between the ages of 16 to 20 years of age, be spiritually mature and have skills in basketball and volleyball. The team will be teaching clinics and playing exhibition games as a means of sharing the gospel. Coaches should have experience coaching either basketball or volleyball, and have spiritual leadership abilities.

Male Baseball Team: Traveling to ZIMBABWE, June 11–23. This team will be comprised of 11 young men and two coaches. Players must be in the 10–12 grade, spiritually mature and good ball players. Coaches must have experience coaching baseball and spiritual leadership abilities. The team will be teaching clinics and playing exhibition games as a means of sharing the gospel.

Female Softball Team (Fast Pitch): Traveling to ZIMBABWE, June 11–23 Players must be young women in the 10–12th grade, spiritually mature and good ball players. The team will consist of 11 players and two coaches. Coaches should have experience coaching baseball and spiritual leadership abilities. The team will be teaching clinics and playing exhibition games as a means of sharing the gospel.

The cost of all trips will be $1,850 per person. This covers airfare, meals, lodging, transportation, insurance and before trip training camp. It does not cover passport cost.

All those chosen must attend a training camp May 22–24.

If you are interested, please check the appropriate box on the back page.

Johnny Childers
State Sports Missions Coordinator
P.O.Box 467
Hildebran, NC 28637
(704) 879-9663 home

Sponsors Needed For Special Camps

Two special camps will again be conducted this summer at Camp Caraway. These are Camp Angel Tree, a camp for boys who have a parent in prison, and Camp Kid-Care, a camp for boys and girls who are HIV positive or who have a family member who is. Both of these camps, conducted at Camp Caraway through North Carolina Baptist Men, have been very successful in showing the love of Christ to children who are facing difficult circumstances. Sponsorship by North Carolina Baptists has been the key to the success of these camps. The cost to sponsor a boy for a week at Camp Angel Tree is $100.00. The cost to sponsor a child for Camp Kid-Care, a four-day, three-night camp, is $65.00 per child.

Each year, there is a great need, in addition to financial sponsorship, for volunteers to provide transportation to and from camp. Volunteers are not asked to spend the week at camp with the child, but to provide a way for them to get there and then back home. Most of these children have no other way of getting to and from camp. These volunteers give much more than transportation. They show that the local Baptist church in the child's own community cares about him or her. Our hope is that, once camp is over, these individuals and their churches will reach out to these kids and their families. If you would like to help sponsor and/or provide transportation to an Angel Tree or Kid-Care camper this summer, please check the box on the back page of this magazine. Someone from our office will send you a sponsor sheet and/or contact you with the name and address of a child in your community as the time for camp draws nearer.

Mini-Camps: A Time For Younger Boys To Enjoy Camp

This summer two sessions will be offered at Camp Caraway as a time for younger boys to enjoy camp in the presence of a trusted adult. These are the Father/Son Mini-Camps. Boys in grades 1–3 come to camp with their father, grandfather, uncle, or other adult male, to enjoy the fun of canoeing, swimming, basketball, field games, Bible study, mission study, archery, and more, while building a bond of love and understanding with that adult male figure. Time spent together in fun and meaningful activities is the best way to foster healthy relationships. Dates for this year's mini-camps are June 29–July 1 and July 1–3. Cost is $45.00 per person. These weeks fill up fast, so act now in order to save your spot.

For a registration form contact the NCBM office at (800) 395–5102, ext. 331 or check the appropriate box on the back of this issue.

ATTENTION:

A Camp Caraway Promotional Video has been produced and is available to anyone who may want to show it to a group of boys or parents in your church. The video is approximately five minutes in length. Please call (800) 395–5102, ext. 160 or 335 if you would like to use a copy of this video. A copy is also available at your local Baptist associational office.

CALENDAR CHANGE

Please note that the Adult Campcraft Training, originally scheduled for the weekend of April 17–18 has been changed to the weekend of May 1–2 to avoid conflict with the state RA Congresses.

State Track Meet For Lads And Crusaders

The 1998 Royal Ambassador Track meet and event for children grades 1–6 who participate in Royal Ambassadors, EZRA, or MissionKids organizations will be held May 16 this year at Southwest Randolph High School near Asheboro. Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m. and conclude by 10:00 a.m. All participants must check in by that time. Preliminaries will begin at 10:30 a.m. and conclude by 1:00 p.m. (There will be no preliminaries for field events.) Finals will begin at 1:00 p.m. and end by 4:00 p.m. An awards ceremony will conclude the day. First, second, and third place finishers will receive medals in each event. A trophy will be given to the church with the highest point total in each age division (Lad and Crusader). The Bill Hern Missions Award will be given to the church with the highest overall score.

Each boy participating must have placed at an associational track meet. Rosters of participants must be filled out and sent in by the director of missions or the associational track meet director. If an association does not have a track meet, the first church in that association that contacts its director of missions or associational RA director, may represent that association at the meet. However, the roster must still be filled out by the appropriate associational representative. All rosters must be received by Monday, May 11.

Cost of the track meet is $3.50 for each boy who participates. The fee must be returned to the North Carolina Baptist Men's Office by Monday, May 11. This is a participation fee only and does not include lunch. Food will be available on-site for purchase.

Contact Mark Abernathy at (800) 395–5102, ext. 335 for more information or if you have questions about this event.

Camp Caraway: A Great Experience For Boys

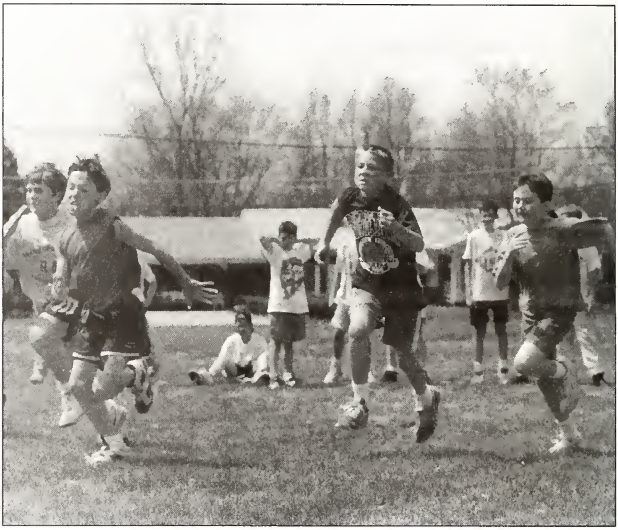
This summer begins the 36th year of Camp Caraway's ministry to the boys of North Carolina. Developing meaningful relationships has been the defining mark of the past 35 years, and the most important is a boy's relationship to Christ. Spiritual development is of primary concern. Boys enjoy morning quiet time, morning Bible study with the camp pastor, and nightly devotions with their counselors. Informal time during the daily schedule provides counselors opportunity to witness to campers in a powerful way, showing them that Christ is real in their lives. Missions is also very much a part of the Caraway experience. Campers spend time each morning with a "real, live missionary," learning about his work and experiences. There is also a hunger center where boys learn about world hunger, its causes, and how we all as Christians can help alleviate this problem.

All this takes place in a beautiful outdoor setting which helps boys appreciate the beauty of God's creation. Daily activities such as swimming, basketball, soccer, canoeing, hiking, camping, ropes course, archery, and much more, make the camping experience a fun one for boys. The camp session runs Monday morning through Friday noon. Cost for a week of camp is $98.00 per boys, which includes all meals, lodging, and camp program. The following weeks are open to boys ages 9–17 for this coming summer: June 15–19; June 22–26; July 6–10; July 13–17; July 27–31; August 3–7. For a list of dates and a registration form, please call the NCBM office at (800) 395–5102 ext. 331 or check the appropriate box on the back of this issue.

Lad/Crusader RA Congress Fun Time For Boys

April 18 is the date for this year's Royal Ambassador Congress. This is an event held for children who are in grades 1–6 and who participate in Royal Ambassadors, EZRA, or MissionKids organizations in their church. The congress is held at three different locations across the state on the same day. The sites for this year's congress are Kinston First Church, Mills Baptist Children's Home in Thomasville, and East Burke Middle School in Icard. All boys are invited to participate in fun field day events, including sack race, 50-yard dash, wheelbarrow race, baseball throw, air rifle shoot, and much more. Ribbons will be given to the first, second, and third place finishers in these events. Individuals and chapters may also participate in the missions fair. Each year, many impressive entries are made, highlighting the missions work being done by RAs across the state.

Those who place first or second in their association's RA racecar competition can compete in the State Run-Offs at the congress. Contact your local Baptist associational office for more details on this event within your association.



Morning activities at the congress will include a program which features singing, a missionary speaker, and Christian entertainer. Cost for the congress is $5.00 per person. This covers lunch, program, and ribbons. Each person planning to attend must pre-register with the NC Baptist Men's office by April 10. It is very important that we know how many will be attending at each site. On-site check-in begins at 8:15 a.m. and concludes at 10:15 a.m. on April 18th. If you would like more information on this event, or would like to have a congress registration form sent to you, please mark the appropriate box on the back page of this issue. Bring your RAs for a fun day at the congress!

Trippin' Out 2

Acteens, Challengers, Youth (7–12 grades), and Leaders, get ready for the state youth missions training event and celebration of the year! Baptist Men and WMU will be sponsoring Trippin' Out 2 at the Ridgecrest Conference Center on December 4–6, 1998. This will begin Friday evening and conclude Sunday morning. Registration information will be coming this summer. For more information, call (800) 395–5102, ext. 342 for Jimmy Huffman.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

See Wake Forest University Day, October 31, 1998

❖❖❖

Wake Forest vs. Virginia

❖❖❖

Information and registration will be in the Summer 1998 issue.

Christian High Adventure: A Unique Experience For Individuals Or Coed Youth Groups

Christian High Adventure is a ministry which affords participants the chance to spend a meaningful week on and around the Appalachian Trail. Participants learn all the basics of how to live in harmony with God's awesome creation with nothing more than what they can carry on their backs. Equipment preparation, hiking, campsite selection, map and compass, cooking, trail procedures, and more are taught during the course of the trip by two well-trained college-aged staffers. Rock climbing and rappelling is a highlight for many.

Participants are also challenged to explore their own relationship with the Creator through Bible study and quiet time in the morning and meaningful rap sessions to close the day out. Time is given for personal and spiritual reflection during the course of the day.

Nine weeks of Christian High Adventure begin June 8 and conclude August 8. Cost is $105.00 per person for a week. Trips begin Sunday afternoon and conclude Friday afternoon. Camp Caraway

serves as the base camp for trips. Four weeks are designated as male only trips. Boys must be 14 or older to participate. Adult males may also go on these trips with boys, but are not required to do so. Five weeks are designated for coed youth groups. These weeks are assigned on a first-come first-serve basis. Special rates are available for youth groups.

For many, the chance to "get away from it all" is one that rarely comes along. CHA is a great place to have that experience in a positive, Christian setting. Why not enrich your life or the lives of your youth this summer by taking a Christian High Adventure? For a registration form, please contact the NCBM office at (800) 395–5102, ext. 331 or check the appropriate box on the back of this issue.

World Changers 1998: A Time To Build

NC Baptist Men and the Raleigh Baptist Association are sponsoring a preparation weekend May 1–3, 1998 for churches that will be participating in a National World Changers project this summer. All parts of the pre-project study will be covered, including a hands-on work project on Saturday in the inner city of Raleigh. We will attempt to make this weekend model the same format and structure of a national project. Housing will be in a school gym. There will be fellowship, celebration, and worship times. Both junior and senior high youth may attend. If this summer will be your first time participating in World Changers, we highly recommend this weekend.

Also offered during this weekend will be a World Changers Crew Chief School. If you plan to serve as a crew chief on your church's trip, or at another location, this will be excellent pre-project training. Expectations and responsibilities will be explained. Suggestions about working with youth and construction will also be shared. Crew chiefs are needed for all three North Carolina projects next summer. If you would like to volunteer this would be an excellent event to attend.

Call (800) 395–5102, ext. 341 for registration information or check the appropriate item on the back page. Space is limited, so sign up now. The deadline to register is April 15. Cost is $25.00 per person. This will cover four meals, lodging, and program fee.

Young Men Needed To Work On Caraway Staff

Camp Caraway is now accepting applications from young men who would like to serve on the 1998 summer staff. Sixteen college-aged counselors serve on the staff along with six rising high school seniors, called counselors-in-training (CITs). A lifeguard is also hired for the summer. The job of each staff member is to care for the physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being of the 8-12 boys assigned to their cabin group. Each staff member has a unique opportunity to witness through word and deed, showing the boys that Christ is real and working in their lives.

The summer consists of nine weeks, beginning in 1998 on June 7 and concluding August 7. The first week is orientation, during which the staff learns all the basics of working with and ministering to boys. Prospective staff members fill out an application form available through the North Carolina Baptist Men's office. They then have a personal interview with the camp director. All positions at camp are salaried, with counselors and the lifeguard making up to $130.00 a week and CITs up to $85.00 a week.

If you know a young man who is a growing Christian, loves the outdoors, and would like to make a real difference in the lives of other young people this summer, please have him contact the NC Baptist Men's office at 1 (800) 395-3102, ext. 335 for more information and an application

1998 Challengers Convention

The 1998 Challengers Convention will be held March 20–21 at South Asheboro Middle School. The weekend will begin with an exciting program on Friday night featuring Christian entertainer Matt Fore. There will be music and missions activities as well. A 3-on-3 Basketball Tourney will be held after the program. There will also be Missions Fair, Banner Contest, a Speak Out Competition, and Missions Quiz Game. On Saturday morning there will be three exciting hours of OOORAH! Entertainment featuring Inflated Obstacle Course, Bungee Run, Big Glove Boxing, and Gladiatory Style Pedestal Joust. You must be there to see and experience OOORAH! Entertainment.

The State Challengers Track Meet will also be held Saturday afternoon. All young men may participate in the Track Meet. (Young men will not have to qualify at an associational meet.) Medals will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishers.

The Convention Hotel will be the Days Inn in Asheboro. The program cost is $30.00 per person, with four to a room (with less than four to a room the cost is $35.00 per person). This includes one night's lodging, breakfast and lunch on Saturday, and program fee.

Call (800) 395–5102, ext. 341 for registration information or check the appropriate item on the back page.

Challengers Work Weekend At Camp Caraway May 29–30

NC Baptist Men are sponsoring a work weekend for Challengers on May 29–30. This will be held at Camp Caraway. This weekend will give Challengers groups an opportunity to earn a missions credit toward their Mile Award, experience hands-on missions, and prepare Camp Caraway for its 36th summer of operation. There will also be plenty of fun to go along with the work of painting, cabin repair, and trail building. The cost will be $15.00 per person, which covers three meals and one night's lodging.

Call (800) 395–5102, ext. 341 for registration information or check the appropriate item on the back page. Space is limited, so sign up now!

Operation Inasmuch Training Set For March 27–28 In Fayetteville

The second annual state training for Operation Inasmuch will be held March 27–28 at Snyder Memorial Church in Fayetteville. Snyder Memorial members have participated in three one-day mission blitzes in recent years.

Operation Inasmuch involves congregations reaching out and helping others in the community. Snyder Memorial members say they have seen lives change, including one young woman enrolling in seminary and being called to be a missionary as the result of her involvement.

On March 27 the training session will cover logistics of sponsoring such a program. On March 28 those persons attending the training will participate in an Operation Inasmuch with members from Snyder Memorial.

Churches are encouraged to help cover training costs for participants. (Cost is $20.00 per person.) There is a limit of five participants per church. Hotel arrangements will be offered at registration.

Registration ends March 15. To register, call Lisa Chilson of NC Baptist Men at (800) 395–5102, ext. 333.

Operation Yahweh

Imagine the impact of 500 + students descending on the greater-Charlotte area for a missions/evangelism project during the two days prior to Super Summer at Paramount's Carowinds.

Operation Yahweh is sponsored by NC Baptist Men and the Evangelism Department. Operation Yahweh will be held July 28–29, 1998. Its purpose is to involve students in a hands-on missions/evangelism project. The projects are community outreach and canvassing and light construction.

The mission is to engage your youth in a mission opportunity which will produce a lasting impact upon the lives of thousands of people, including your youth! Registration is $25.00 per person, which includes lodging, meals, and a ticket to Super Summer (a $13 value) on July 29. For a free packet of information, please check the appropriate item on the back page or call Jimmy Huffman at (800) 395–5102, ext. 342. If you are in the Gaston, Metrolina, United, Union, Cabarrus, Rowan, or Stanley Associations and would be interested in hosting a group, please contact Jimmy Huffman.

CHECK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION & REGISTRATION

Spring 1998, For additional information and registration, check the appropriate block and mail this back page (with the label) to: North Carolina Baptist Men, P.O. Box 1107, Cary, NC 27512–1107

TO RECEIVE MORE INFORMATION

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- ❑ Agricultural Missions Opportunities (p.9)
- ❑ Community Service Projects — Camp Angel Tree (p.10)
- ❑ Annual NC Baptist Men Disaster Relief Training (p. 10)
- ❑ NC Baptist Health Care Fellowship Mission Trips (p. 11)
  ___ Ukraine ___ China ___ India
- ❑ 1997–1998 Owners Manual (p. 13)
  Cost $5.
  #_____ booklets @ $5.00 = Total $_____
  Shipping & Handling $2.00
  Grand Total $_____
- ❑ Sports In Missions Opportunities (p.17)
- ❑ Mini Camps: Time For Younger Boys To Enjoy Camp (p.18)
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- ❑ Operation Yahweh (p. 23)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Office _____ Home _____

Church _____ Association _____

Leadership Position _____

Registration Fee (if applicable) $_____ Number in group (if applicable) _____

(Make checks payable to North Carolina Baptist Men.)

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